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Additional Sponsor or Department Testimony

The Sponsor/department explain:

Centrally assessment (briefly)

Moves land line companies from Class 13 to Class 5 if the companies serve exclusively rural areas or cities/towns of less than 10,000 permanent or less

The impacted land line companies and rural areas served are:

Central Montana Communications, Inc. (land line) – Lewistown/Fergus Nemont Communications, Inc. (land line) - Glasgow area Northern Communications, Inc. (land line) - Cut Bank/Glacier

RT Communications, Inc. (land line) - Worland area

Advanced Communication Technology (land line) - Colstrip/Rosebud

BCE Nixxia Corporation (land line) - Cut Bank/Glacier

Frontier (Citizens Telecom Company) (land line) – Libby/Lincoln

Verizon Northwest, Inc. (land line) - Mineral

Noanet (land line) - Noxon/Sanders

Sagebrush Cellular, Inc. (cell phone) - Hardin/Big Horn

Triangle Communications Systems, Inc. (cell phone) - Lewistown/Fergus Cable & Communications Corp (cell phone) - Miles City/Custer

Exempts 50% of the market value of new cell phone property that is placed into service after January 1, 2009, for 10 years.